

1.0 GENERAL

This special provision governs driving piles with a pile driving analyzer (PDA) in accordance with the plans and as directed by the Engineer. The PDA test method is described in ASTM D4945, "Standard Test Method for High-Strain Dynamic Testing of Piles". Install piles in accordance with Section 450 of the Standard Specifications and this provision.

Submit the proposed pile driving methods and equipment (Pile Driving Equipment Data Form) in accordance with the Submittal of Working Drawings Special Provision and the Standard Specifications. The Engineer will respond with preliminary approval or rejection of the proposed pile driving methods and equipment within 10 calendar days. Preliminary approval is required before driving piles with a PDA. Notify the Engineer of the pile driving schedule a minimum of 14 calendar days in advance.

Either a PDA Consultant or the NCDOT Geotechnical Engineering Unit, as directed by the Engineer, shall perform PDA testing and analysis. If required, retain a PDA Consultant and submit experience documentation with the proposed pile driving methods and equipment.

The Engineer will determine the number of piles and which piles to be tested with the PDA based upon the subsurface conditions and the pile installation sequence and progress.

The Engineer will complete the review of the proposed pile driving methods and equipment and provide the required driving resistance within 10 calendar days after the Engineer receives the PDA report or the Geotechnical Engineering Unit completes the PDA testing. A PDA report for PDA testing on multiple piles may be required as directed by the Engineer before the 10 day time period begins.

2.0 PREQUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Use a PDA Consultant prequalified by the Contractual Services Unit of the Department for Pile Driving Analyzer work (work code 3060).

Submit documentation that the PDA Consultant has successfully completed at least 5 PDA testing projects within the last 3 years of a scope and complexity similar to that anticipated for this project. Documentation should include the General Contractor and Owner's name and current contact information with descriptions of each past project. Also, submit documentation of experience with PDA manufactured by Pile Dynamics, Inc and the CAsE Pile Wave Analysis Program (CAPWAP).

Provide a list of PDA Operators and the Project Engineer that will be assigned to this project. Submit documentation for each PDA Operator verifying employment with the PDA Consultant and a minimum of 1 year experience in collecting PDA data with past projects of scope and complexity similar to that anticipated for this project. Submit

documentation for the Project Engineer verifying employment with the PDA Consultant, registration as professional engineer in North Carolina and a minimum of 5 years experience in PDA testing and analysis with past projects of scope and complexity similar to that anticipated for this project. Documentation should include resumes, references, certifications, project lists, experience descriptions and details, etc.

3.0 PREPARATION FOR PDA TESTING

Provide piles for PDA testing that are 5 ft (1.5 m) longer, or as directed by the Engineer, than the estimated pile lengths shown on the plans. Supply 110 V, 60 Hz, 30 Amp of AC electrical power to operate the PDA equipment. Direct current welders or non-constant power sources are unacceptable.

Provide a suitable shelter to protect the PDA equipment and operator from conditions of sun, water, wind and temperature. The shelter should have a minimum floor size of 6 ft x 6 ft (2 m x 2 m) and a minimum roof height of 8 ft (2.5 m). If necessary, heat or cool the shelter to maintain a temperature between 50 and 85 degrees F (10 and 30 degrees C). Place the shelter within 75 ft (23 m) of the pile such that the PDA cables reach the computer and the operator can clearly observe the pile. The Engineer may waive the shelter requirement if weather conditions allow.

Drill up to a total of 16 bolt holes in either 2 or 4 sides of the pile, as directed by the PDA Consultant or the Engineer, at an approximate distance equal to 3 times the pile diameter below the head of the pile. If the PDA Consultant or the Engineer choose to drill the bolt holes, provide the necessary equipment, tools and assistance to do so. A hammer drill is required for concrete piles and up to 2 hours may be required to drill the holes.

Lift, align and rotate the pile to be tested with the PDA as directed by the PDA Consultant or the Engineer. Place the pile in the leads and template so that the PDA instruments and their accompanying wires will not be damaged.

The PDA Consultant or the Engineer will furnish the PDA measuring instruments and materials for installing the instruments. Attach the PDA instruments as directed by the PDA Consultant or the Engineer after the pile is placed in the leads and the template.

4.0 PDA TESTING

Use only the preliminarily approved pile driving methods and equipment to drive piles with the PDA instruments attached. Drive the pile as directed by the PDA Operator or the Engineer in order to measure the wavespeed of the pile.

Drive the pile to the required bearing capacity and specified tip elevation, if applicable, as shown on the plans or as directed by the PDA Consultant or the Engineer. During pile driving, the PDA will be used to evaluate, including but not limited to, the following: hammer performance, bearing capacity, distribution of soil resistance, pile driving stresses, energy transfer, pile integrity and various soil parameters such as quake and damping.

The PDA Operator or the Engineer may require the Contractor to modify the pile installation procedure during driving as follows:

- Reduce the hammer energy
- Drive deeper or shallower because of variations in the subsurface conditions
- Readjust the transducers
- Realign the pile

The Contractor is responsible in terms of both actual expense and time delays for any damage to the PDA instruments and supporting equipment due to the Contractor's fault or negligence. Replace any damaged equipment at no additional cost to the Department.

5.0 REDRIVING PILES

When directed by the Engineer, reattach the PDA instruments and restrike or redrive the pile in accordance with Section 4.0 above and Subarticle 450-7(E) of the Standard Specifications. Obtain the required stroke and penetration (at least 6 in or 150 mm) or as directed by the PDA Operator or the Engineer. The PDA Operator or the Engineer will record dynamic measurements during restriking and redriving. The Engineer may require restriking and redriving more than once on the same pile. The Engineer will determine when PDA testing has been satisfactorily completed.

6.0 CAPWAP ANALYSIS AND PDA REPORT

The PDA Consultant shall perform analysis of the PDA raw data with the CAPWAP (version 2006 or later). At a minimum, analysis is required for a hammer blow near the end of initial drive and for each restrike and redrive. Additional CAPWAP analysis may be required as determined by the PDA Consultant or the Engineer.

Submit three hard copies and an electronic copy (pdf or jpeg format on CD or DVD) of a PDA report sealed by the Project Engineer within 7 calendar days after field testing is complete. The PDA report shall include but not be limited to the following:

A. Title Sheet

- NCDOT TIP number and WBS element number
- Project description
- County
- Bridge station number
- Pile location
- Personnel
- Report date

B. Introduction

C. Site and Subsurface Conditions (including water table elevation)

D. Pile Details

- Pile type and length
- Required bearing capacity and factor of safety
- Concrete compressive strength and/or steel pile yield strength
- Pile splice type and locations
- Pile batter
- Installation methods including use of jetting, preaugering, spudding, vibratory hammer, template, barge, etc.

E. Driving Details

- Hammer make, model and type
- Hammer and pile cushion type and thickness
- Pile helmet weight
- Hammer efficiency and operation data including fuel settings, bounce chamber pressure, blows per minute, equipment volume and pressure
- Ground or mud line elevation and template reference elevation at the time of driving
- Final pile tip elevation
- Driving resistance (ram stroke, blows per foot (0.3 meter) and set for last 10 hammer blows)
- Restrike and redrive information

F. PDA field work details

G. CAPWAP analysis results

- Table showing percent skin and tip, skin and toe damping, skin and toe quake and match quality

H. Summary/Conclusions

I. Attachments

- Boring log(s)
- Pile Driving Equipment Data Form (from Contractor)
- Field pile driving inspection data (from Engineer)
- Accelerometer and strain gauge locations

- Accelerometer and strain gauge serial numbers and calibration information
- PDA hardware model and CAPWAP software version information
- Electronic copy of all PDA raw data and executable CAPWAP input and output files (version 2006 format)

7.0 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT

The complete and accepted PDA testing will be paid for at the unit bid price for “PDA Testing” per each. Include in the unit bid price for “PDA Testing” all costs for providing the PDA, PDA instruments and materials for installing the instruments and recording the dynamic measurements the first time the pile is tested with the PDA. Costs for providing these items for the same pile after the pile is initially tested with the PDA will be considered incidental to the unit bid price for “Pile Redrives”. Also include in the unit bid price for “PDA Testing” all costs for performing the CAPWAP analysis on data collected during initial drive, restrikes and redrives and preparing and submitting the PDA report. No payment for “PDA Testing” will be made if the PDA report submitted is incomplete as described in Section 6.0. No payment for “PDA Testing” will be made if the Department performs PDA testing. If the Department does not perform PDA testing, the number of “PDA Testing” per pile will be equal to one.

The complete and accepted PDA assistance will be paid for at the unit bid price for “PDA Assistance” per each. Include in the unit bid price for “PDA Assistance” all costs for PDA preparation and support including all materials, labor, tools, equipment, mobilization and incidentals necessary to complete the work described in this provision excluding the costs for the PDA testing described above. Costs for PDA preparation and support for restrikes and redrives will not be paid for separately. The number of “PDA Assistance” per pile will be equal to one for each pile tested with the PDA.

The cost of the pile and the installation including driving, restriking and redriving will be paid for separately in accordance with the Standard Specifications and will not be part of these PDA pay items.